



BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB  
OF THE FINGER LAKES

# Newsletter

## March 2014

### *Next club meeting*

*March 29, 2014 at the Syracuse Fairgrounds*

*30 minutes after breed judging, in the milking room*



Meagan LaMendola puts the final touches on Una before they compete in the 17th annual Potomac Valley Bernese Mountain Dog Club's show at the Great Frederick Fairgrounds Saturday.

Copied from [www.FrederickNewspost.com](http://www.FrederickNewspost.com)

### Bragg:

Our Striker (Arundel's Stroke of Luck v Nashem) was Winners Dog at the Sunday show of the Potomac Regional Specialty in Maryland in February. At the Saturday show, our Derrick (GCh. Honeoye Arundel's Arm Candy) co-owned with Joan LaMendola, won an Award of Merit, Striker won Reserve Winners Dog, and Una (Arundel Honeoye Una), co-owned with Nancy and Don Coleman, won Reserve Winners Bitch. All these dogs were ably handled by Meagan LaMendola.

Sue Brightman

### **DUES FOR 2014 ARE DUE BY MARCH 31!**

Dues for 2014 were due on January 1st. We are striving to adhere to our ByLaws that state members must renew by March 31 or reapply for membership. (Note that members joining as of November or later do not need to submit dues for 2014.) **Please do send your dues in to our Treasurer ASAP!**

**Bev Burney, Treasurer, PO Box 322, Barneveld, NY 13304**

**315-896-4498; Bevsbmd@aol.com**

Dues are \$10 for individual members and \$15 for families, payable to "BMDCFL". Please note if your contact information has changed. Bev plans to attend the meeting at the Syracuse show on Saturday, March 29, and would be happy to collect your dues then.

# President 's Message

Hi All!

Please join us for a brief meeting a half hour after Berner judging at the North Country KC Show at the Syracuse Fairgrounds on Saturday, March 29. We anticipate meeting in the milk room again, and more information will be available from officers and board members at ringside. (Please see [www.raudogshows.com](http://www.raudogshows.com) under Upcoming Shows for information on the time of judging about 1 week prior to the show.)

Dues are now due for 2014 to Bev Burney. Per our ByLaws, members must renew by March 31 or will have to reapply for membership. Please see the notice elsewhere this newsletter.

We had a wonderful Winter Bash in January coordinated by Lynn and Lance Nelson. We do hope that other members will consider hosting a gathering of our club. If you'd like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me. "Like" our Facebook page (Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Finger Lakes), so you can get the latest and up-to-the-minute club news.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Galen Zimmer is announcing the BernerFest June 8th, a very popular day full of activities for all members and their Berners.

For the BMDCA National Specialty, to be held in Virginia April 7-13, regional clubs are asked to donate a basket to be raffled as a fundraiser. We hope our basket will proudly represent our region and its lovely Berners. Lynn Nelson and Pam Wehle have volunteered to pull together this basket, so please send items and donations to Lynn ([BernerMom585@aol.com](mailto:BernerMom585@aol.com)). More information is available on our Facebook page as well as [www.bmdca.org](http://www.bmdca.org) under Specialty 2014. We anticipate the entry of Berners will be one of the largest in the breed's history.

Bernerly,  
Sue Brightman, President  
[ArundelBerners@gmail.com](mailto:ArundelBerners@gmail.com)  
585-768-2095

## Reminders

Membership forms can be downloaded and printed from our website.

<http://www.bmdcfl.org/membership.html>

**Have you paid your 2014 Dues?**

Have you liked our BMD CFL Facebook page yet?

# **BernerFest 2014**

Sunday, June 8.

Myers Park, Cayuga Lake in Lansing (Pavilion F)

9 am - 5 pm with most organized activities happening before our picnic at 1 pm

We welcome Berners and their families and friends  
(human and canine).

A raffle will follow the picnic.

**We always have a good time rain or shine—  
the dogs don't care!**

Hots and hamburgers will be provided by the club.

Bring beverages and place settings, a dish to pass and  
to add to our raffle with a dog-related item.

**We look forward to sharing this popular event  
with you and your Berner.**

Any questions, contact:  
Galen Zimmer, 607-844-4168

A small fee for parking is charged. Overnight camping is available.

Families are asked to donate \$5 each to our club treasury (checks payable  
to BMDCFL) to help cover the festivities.

Good Information  
worth spreading  
Good Information  
worth spreading

Found on-line:

**OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS**

**WARNING! DO NOT GIVE!**

<http://www.walkervalleyvet.com/otc-meds.htm>

**Our annual Supported Entry at Wine Country will again be held this September  
at Sampson State park.**

**please select and sponsor one of the prizes.**

**Email your pledged donation to:**

**Debra Brown: serendipityfarm@hotmail.com**

Prize	Sponsor
\$40 Best of Breed .....	Debra Brown
\$30 Best of Opposite Best of Winners	
\$25 Winners Dog Winners Bitch Reserve Winners Dog Reserve Winners Bitch Veteran Dog Veteran Bitch	
\$20 6-9 Puppy Dog 9-12 Puppy Dog 12-18 Puppy Dog Bred by Dog .....	Sue Brightman
American Bred Dog Novice Dog Open Dog	

Prize	Sponsor
\$20 6-9 Puppy Bitch 9-12 Puppy Bitch 12-18 Puppy Bitch Bred by Bitch.....	Sue Brightman
American Bred Bitch Novice Bitch Open Bitch	
\$20 Agility Rally Obedience Junior Handler Brace	

## **\*Meet New Members Amanda and Jason Davin!**

I have loved the Bernese Mountain dog my entire life, but hadn't been lucky enough to meet one in person until after Jason and I were married. In August of 2009 we brought home our first Berner puppy; we were lucky enough to have connected with Sue Brightman to learn more about the breed, and to fall more in love with the breed. Ruby was a somewhat submissive puppy so we made sure to enroll her in Puppy K classes and also frequented puppy playtime. We often referred to her as the "perfect dog" (and still do today) and decided she might enjoy having a sibling. We brought Murphy home in May of 2011. Sue had warned us; he wouldn't be as easy with training as Ruby had been, and she was right! We took Murphy to Puppy K classes as well, but he didn't win any awards like his older sister did! In March of 2012 our daughter Lydia was born, and we couldn't be more pleased with how well the dogs have adapted to having a little girl romping around the house. They are certainly the perfect family dog.

We would be willing to assist with any group activities involving training techniques. Additionally, we may be able to assist with the planning of an event, such as the Winter Bash. I do have experience with software development and web applications; I know the website is already being maintained by another member but if there is any need in that capacity I would be willing to help.

Amanda

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## **\*Meet New Member Lara Riley**

My name is Lara Riley and I live in Fairport NY with my husband and two children. My sister first introduced me to Bernese Mountain Dogs. We watched her dogs on several occasions and were immediately drawn to the gentle, eager to please temperament and beauty of her dogs. Two years ago we finally got a Bernese Mountain Dog. Sadie enjoys hiking and swimming. Most recently Sadie has enjoyed playing and getting together with Berner Buddies (organized by Andrea Heiny) I am willing to assist other members with volunteer activities in my area.

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## **\*Meet New Member Ellen Bean**

My name is Ellen Bean. I live in Buffalo, NY with my husband and Bernese Mountain dog, Keely. We learned about Berners from a friend who had two of them. As soon as I met her dogs, I knew that this was the breed for us! Keely came into our lives 5 1/2 years ago. She has been a great addition to our family and filled the void left by my grown children who moved to other cities. She is affectionate, loyal and even funny. In addition, she is now certified by Therapy Dogs International (TDI). Once a week we visit a charter school where first graders read aloud to her. We walk every day around our neighborhood and people often stop us to comment on her beauty and size. I would be willing to assist with activities in the Buffalo area, but am limited to this area because of other commitments.

Keely has also worked at the Baker Victory Outpatient Clinic and at UB during exam time. Currently, she is just working with children at Tapestry Charter School. They really enjoy interacting with her.

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## \*Meet New Members Pamela and Joel Rose

We currently care for a Berner from Arundel Kennels, Oshana Sophia Rebecca Laurel Danielle Rose (aka Sophia), who is now 4 years old as of 1/17/14. We also currently care for 7 rescue cats, of whom Simba – our 17 lb. golden boy, is one of Sophie's best pals.

We live in the city of Buffalo, in an historic neighborhood known as Parkside, about a block from our Zoo. We have always had companion dogs, including an Irish Setter named Lara, Cavalier King Charles named Tyler, and most recently before Sophia, a Caucasian Ovcharka named Nushi (see <http://wings.buffalo.edu/~pmr/nushi.html>). All of our dogs live to old age: Lara-12, Tyler-15, and Nushi-12.5. We have a very close relationship with our vet, for whom Pam does veterinary research, and Nushi was a blood donor for many years.

When we lost Nushi, we knew that we wanted another large dog, but one with a more gentle temperament. We considered both Berners and Newfoundlands, and finally chose Berners because we by chance met Bear, who is also from Arundel Kennels and is Sophia's older half-sister, and lives in our neighborhood. We were so taken with Bear that we decided to contact Sue, and the rest is history. Sue also connected the buyers of Sophie's littermates, and we ultimately became good friends with Fender's family who live nearby. In fact, Sophie and Fender were certified as therapy dogs together, and we often go together to the Tapestry Charter School to teach kids about responsible pet ownership and therapy dogs.

Pam is a full-time medical librarian at the Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, and Joel is a retired (from UB) Computer Programmer. Joel is also very involved in community work, including leading a successful campaign to keep our Zoo in Delaware Park, and is now working on the local and state-wide anti-gambling initiative.

Pam has been active in animal rescue for over 25 years during which time we rescued, fostered and placed for adoption a Sarplaninac named Juliette from the Tonawanda Reservation, who lived a long and happy life to the age of 12 in Pennsylvania. Pam's rescue career has primarily been fostering and placing cats, and she now serves as the feline behavior counselor for Buffalo Humane in WNY, and serves as a docent at the Buffalo Zoo. Pam is also one of the founders of Therapy Animals of Western New York (TAWNY – <http://therapyanimalswny.org>).

Sophia was trained through 3 levels of obedience, and received her CGC when she was just 1 year old. She is now a certified therapy dog - tested through Therapy Dogs International (TDI) at the age of 2, but now works under Paws for Love out of the SPCA of Erie County. As a therapy dog team, Pam and Sophia currently visit the University at Buffalo during exam weeks to help relieve student stress, are one of the teams who volunteer at the Buffalo-Niagara Airport once a week, and also on request make presentations to various groups about the larger world of Animal Assisted Therapy and other ways in which many species help humans.

We hope to contribute to BMDCFL by serving as a resource for therapy dog training and certification.

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## \*Meet New Member Carol Propis

My husband Jim and I live in Buffalo NY. I have owned 5 Berner's over the last 23 years. I was fortunate enough to have found one of the absolute best, most conscientious and thorough Breeders around. Not only did I find a fabulous breeder in Sue Brightman but a wonderful friend as well. We currently own Diezel (5) and Wrigley (9months). We live near the Frederick Law Olmstead parks and frequently walk our dogs there. We get together with local Berner owners once or twice a month at the park. I am in my 36th year of teaching Physical Education. My husband works near the house and comes home at lunch everyday to walk the dogs. Nothing else to say but...we are crazy about this breed.

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***Welcome New Members and Thank You for submitting a bio.***

***We are so happy to get to know you.***

***Hope to see everyone together in June at our Bernerfest Celebration!***

***Where we can all get to know each other more***

***And have fun!***



**BMDCA National Specialty BMD CFL Raffle Basket**

**Please send items for the raffle basket or donations (checks payable to the BMD CFL) to:**

**Lynn Nelson 3196 East Ave, Caledonia, NY 14423.**

**An example of the basket planned is shown above. Lynn will also be at the Syracuse show on Saturday, March 29, and would be happy to collect your donations then. So far, we have received NY items of: wine, maple syrup and honey.**

**Thank you to all who have donated to date.**